



The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

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NDOT crews continue to respond to road repair needs caused by heavy rainfall



PHOTO: Before and after photographs of a dirt road in Oljato, UT where NDOT crews repaired a washed out road over the weekend.

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — Navajo Division of Transportation work crews are on the ground in various communities on the Navajo Nation, working to repair and restore roads that have been damaged due to heavy rainfall in certain regions. As of Sunday, NDOT crews have repaired washed out dirt roads within the communities of Tohatchi, Navajo Mountain, Oljato, Pine Springs, Torreon, and Burnt Corn. Work continues on roads in several other communities.

Throughout the weekend, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer also met with the Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Management, Division Directors, and representatives from several counties to receive updates and to ensure that road repairs continue, to mobilize Community Health Representatives to check on elders and disabled

residents, and to coordinate other resources such as sandbags, bottled water, and other essential items and supplies.

“We are very thankful for the much-needed moisture that we’ve received recently. It is a blessing for our land, crops, livestock and animals, and all five-fingered beings. With that, comes certain challenges and our team has been on the ground working to repair roads as quickly as possible. We are thankful to the residents, chapters, Council Delegates, and others who have reached out to our Administration and NDOT to provide information so that we can deploy personnel and resources including heavy equipment. On Monday, we will provide an opportunity for all 110 chapters to hear from our team, county officials, and emergency response personnel,” said President Nez.

NDOT was unable to complete repairs in one remote area of Wide Ruins due to heavy mud that made the area inaccessible, but crews will return this week to proceed with road repairs. NDOT Executive Director Garret Silversmith is also working with county officials to coordinate more road repairs and to gather and distribute sandbags for certain areas that are in need.

“The personnel on the ground are responding as quickly as they can. Once they complete repairs to one road, they are off to the next. So, we ask for everyone’s patience and understanding while road crews continue the work. Our prayers for moisture were heard and we are thankful, but we all have to work together now to support one another,” said Vice President Lizer.



PHOTO: NDOT repairs N91 in the community of Torreon, N.M.

Officials are also assessing several dams, including the Winslow Levee, that are being monitored due to excessive amounts of water pressure. Officials are also cautioning the public of weather forecasts that indicate more rainfall in the next few days and high temperatures later in the week for many parts of the Navajo Nation and surrounding communities.

On Monday at 10:00 a.m. (MDT), the Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President will host a virtual meeting and will invite county officials, chapter officials, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and state emergency officials to provide updates and coordinate additional resources.

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